

Board of Trustees
Suffolk County Department of Parks
Recreation and Conservation
Minutes of January 19, 2006 at Coindre Hall, Huntington

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	Ray Corwin	Chairman, Member at Large
	Richard F. White, Jr.	Trustee, Town of East Hampton
	John Fritz	Trustee, Town of Babylon
	Gil Cardillo	Trustee, Town of Riverhead
	Miles Borden	Trustee, Town of Smithtown
	Alexander McKay	Trustee, Town of Huntington
	Gregory Dawson	Trustee, Town of Islip
ABSENT:	Vacant	Trustee, Town of Southold
	Vacant	Trustee, Town of Shelter Island
	Aurelio Colina	Vice Chairman, Town of Southampton
	Jeanine Dillon	Member of the Board
	Gary Olsen	Trustee, Town of Brookhaven
PARKS DEPARTMENT:	Ronald F. Foley	Commissioner
	Tracey Belone	Deputy Commissioner
	Colleen Hofmeister	Contracts Manager
	Bill Sickles	Sr. Superintendent of Parks
	Tom Hroncich	Marketing specialist
	Richard Hollborn	Superintendent of Parks
	Richard Martin	Director of Historic Services
	Nick Gibbons	Senior Environmental Analyst
	Mary Simonsen	Secretary to the Commissioner
GUESTS:	Joseph Miller	Former Trustee, Town of Islip
	Lauretta Fischer	Principal Environmental Analyst
	Pat Zielenski	Director of Real Estate
	Tom Isles	Director of Planning
	Janet Longo	Assistant Director of Planning
	Jennifer Kohn	Assistant County Attorney
	John J. Ratay	Alliance to Preserve Huntington Harbor
	Janet Graham	Alliance to Preserve Huntington Harbor
	Elizabeth Koerner	Alliance to Preserve Huntington Harbor
	Dale Gifford	Alliance to Preserve Huntington Harbor
	Pat Breslauer	Marble Hills Civic Association
	William Milanese, Jr.	Member of the Public
	Eldon Smith	Alliance to Preserve Huntington Harbor

John D'Esposito
Joe Plonski

Alliance to Preserve Huntington Harbor
Member of the Public

Chairman Corwin opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. by introducing new Town of Islip Trustee, Greg Dawson and asked those present to introduce themselves.

CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 15, 2005:

Page 5, first sentence under Hallock Acre Wetlands: remove the word "they", change "wet" to read "Wetland" and change "was" to "were".

Page 5, second sentence: Change the first word "It" to "The area".

Page 5, under Saw Mill Creek, change the third sentence to read "located just north of the east side of Main Street" to read "located just north of East Main Street."

Page 6, under Remains and Artifacts... change the first sentence to read "Testing did not conclusively determine..."

PLANNING AND REAL ESTATE:

Mud Creek Watershed - Located in East Patchogue, in the Town of Brookhaven in the vicinity of Brookhaven Memorial Hospital. The parcel consists of 1.6 acres and ties into other Suffolk County holdings. The eastern branch of the property has been subject to Trustee review on a number of occasions including for the Gallo Duck Farm, which was a tax surplus parcel that the County acquired due to non-payment of taxes and then transferred into a Parks category. The County is working with federal agencies on a restoration of the duck farm property to a natural wetlands environment.

The parcel falls under the Multifaceted Open Space Program. North of the eastern branch of the parcel are other Suffolk County holdings as well as other acquisitions that are pending in an effort to preserve this watershed. It's important that in the densely populated area of western Suffolk County that there be a stream corridor that is in very good shape. The west branch of the parcel contains a dense population of heritage trout, the only one on Long Island genetically indigenous to the area and has been recognized by the Department of Environmental Conservation.

The property is located along County Road 101 and is open to development, so Planning and Real Estate feel this acquisition would complete the protection of the stream corridor. The fact that property may have regulated wetlands doesn't necessarily mean it can't be developed if it is privately owned. Trustee White asked if there was an imminent threat of development on this land, Tom Isles said not that he is aware of, but they would rather not wait until the last minute if someone were to have building permits pending. There are current and future proposed County acquisitions on this property as well as parcels owned by the Town of Brookhaven, perhaps in time the property could be consolidated via a joint management agreement. With no further questions, Trustee White motioned to approve, it was seconded by Trustee Borden and voted unanimously in favor of recommending the acquisition by a vote of 7-0-0.

Sposato Property - Located on Shelter Island in the Town of Shelter Island. This parcel consists of 5.99 acres and falls under the Multifaceted Land Preservation Partnership Program. Under this program there is an equal match with the Town of Shelter Island, meaning they would be putting up half the money for the acquisition and the County and Town would have a management partnership. One of the benefits of that is the County could seek local management, which would be worked out in the agreement. The parcel contains both freshwater wetlands and tidal wetlands. There are also 28 acres in the vicinity that are pending County acquisitions.

Tom Isles was asked to define the Multifaceted Land Preservation Partnership Program. He said it is a County Capital Budget Program which is an amalgam of programs. The County used to have separate programs for farmland, for open space, for parkland, etc. A few years ago the Legislature decided to put them all into one program and called it Multifaceted, which can be used for many different types of acquisitions.

Trustee McKay asked if there is access to Fresh Pond to the north of the parcel through existing County property, or would access be through the acquisition. Tom Isles said there is limited access through the existing property, but easier access could be provided through this acquisition. There could be some off road parking and minimal disturbances for paving and access, as it would be used for passive recreation only.

With no further questions, Trustee White motioned to approve, seconded by Trustee Fritz and voted unanimously in favor of recommending the acquisition by a vote of 7-0-0.

Master Lists - Tom Isles said the County Executive had requested the Planning Department to complete a Master List of acquisition sites when he came into office two years ago, that was known as Master List I. They have completed Master List II in 2005 which are acquisitions in addition to, not in replacement of, Master List I and had copies for distribution. This second Master List references 68 sites consisting of 3,100 acres, and 25 farmland sites consisting of 686 acres. Chairman Corwin asked Real Estate and Planning if they would provide copies of the overall guide to land acquisition programs to the new Trustees and others who may need a copy.

Trustee McKay asked if this list was compatible with The Nature Conservancy's Last Stand Program. Tom Isles said he has begun looking at their priority list and 9 of their top 10 priorities are already covered or proposed for acquisition, so it is compatible.

At this time Chairman Corwin wished to present a Certificate of Appreciation to former Town of Islip Trustee Jay (Joseph) Miller on behalf of the Parks Department and the Board of Trustees for his twelve years of dedication and service to the Board. The Chairman thanked him for his outstanding perspective, gained through service on various committees, his legal background, and experience in general, which perhaps altered many of the decisions made by the Trustees.

Commissioner Foley presented Mr. Miller with a Proclamation from County Executive Levy, paying recognition to him and thanking him for his twelve years of serving the Suffolk County Parks Board of Trustees with energy and determination and he will be missed by many. Commissioner Foley extended his personal thanks and commendations to Mr. Miller for making his transition into the department as smooth as it could be and for the challenges he brought before the Board, which will be missed.

Mr. Miller thanked those present and said over the last twelve years it has been his pleasure to meet some of the most diligent County employees who taxpayers should be proud of. And in his experience, the Trustees and County employees that he has had the opportunity to serve with are true stewards of the County, they research, they find things out and they actually walk the parks, he leaves here today knowing the Parks are in great hands.

ALLIANCE TO PRESERVE HUNTINGTON HARBOR (APHH):

Chairman Corwin opened the floor to members of APHH and Huntington residents in attendance to address the Trustees regarding their concerns about the current status and future of Coindre Hall and its property.

John Ratay began by saying the APHH has come into existence over the last year and consists of resident associations as well as individuals, representing 3,000-4,000 homes in the area. He said they have written letters to the Town of Huntington, the County Executive and the Parks Department expressing their concern over lack of unified planning, and that over the last several years it has come to the attention of the residents that money was being spent for studies and that things were moving rapidly on items such as the boathouse, a dock, a dog-run, etc., without public input.

Mr. Ratay said Legislator Cooper made the decision to propose the installation of a dog run in the park. At the same time that was happening, the Town of Huntington was planning to build a boathouse without the constituents knowing. Segmentation of the park bothers them because there is only one major access road in this very residential area. They were surprised to see the proper studies of how this would affect the community, traffic, and the environment were not done. So community members got together and formed the APHH to unify themselves and try to develop their own partnership with the right bodies and move forward in an acceptable way.

Mr. Ratay said they are one of the last residential waterfront communities and recreational parks on Huntington Harbor. It seems to them the first priority of the park should be to satisfy the recreational needs of the community. Their question is, when the County took over the property, what was the intention? He said they are here today because they do not feel the Town of Huntington and the County have presented any unified plan to the community.

Another question the group has is when the County took over Coindre Hall, was it to be used for generating money or passive use? They feel the land on which Coindre Hall sits will be neglected and ignored without a unified plan as they see funds being spent on building repairs and a dog-run, but ask, what about the problem of erosion and passive recreational needs? The gym at Coindre Hall is open to the public for various, simultaneous activities through the Town, why not when other functions are taking place in the building? They do not feel the money is being spent the way the citizens of Huntington would like it to be and they would like to be involved in discussions and decisions. They would like to see an expert study done and a plan for the property, onsite management, proactive discussions with the community, and something to be done that will be beneficial to everyone.

Joe Plonski, member of the public: Mr. Plonski has been a resident of Huntington for over 50 years. He said unleashed dogs are a dangerous nuisance and must be controlled. He said all along Browns Road, people walk their dogs unleashed. A plan is needed, if a fence needs to be built, then we need to build a fence.

John D'Esposito, APHH: He said some time ago, four members of the APHH were present at a Town Hall meeting where the public was to receive information about the boathouse being built and they asked questions for an hour. He said a town Councilmember and the Maritime Director denied there were plans for a building on Gold Star Battalion Beach that was to be used for a boathouse and plans for a dock. But he said they had already done their research, and some people had seen the plans for the building and the dock, this left a bitter taste in their mouths.

He said park use should be free public use. He understands that is not always possible because you need to generate money somehow. But the public is displaced when a private event takes place at Coindre Hall and that has to be taken into consideration. The public needs to have somewhere to park their cars and have access to the grounds.

He said that there are no dogs permitted – leashed or unleashed – on Gold Star Battalion Beach and asks how you can have an entrance to a dog run on this beach? What has happened as a result is that dogs are running loose on the beach. No use of the property should violate an

existing rule, one group of park users should not be catered to over another.

In both of these cases he feels the public has not been given a chance to give input and they are here today on their own time because they are concerned that the public is not being addressed adequately to the uses of these parklands. He also said he would like to see a full time County employee presence on the property.

He said he would like to see more enhancements to the maintenance of the boathouse, which Sagamore Rowing Club has not done, or else taxpayers will end up bearing the burden because routine maintenance has not been done. If there was a County presence, maybe that would have been addressed. He said he would like to see the size of Coindre Hall doubled to accommodate public use when an event is taking place.

Eldon Smith, APHH: He has lived in Huntington for 60 years and said he has watched the property and building deteriorate. The work to the historic inside is commendable; the focus should be turned to the outside grounds. He asks that the importance of this historic property to the people of the Town of Huntington, as one of the last remaining public access areas to the waterfront, be recognized; preserve the view, do not develop it or commercialize it for private use. He said they sincerely want to be part of the process, not a thorn in its side. He recognized the achievements that have been made, such as stabilization of the boathouse, storm water run-off catch basins, and the rebuilding of the garage to its historic state. He wants to see the motion forward continue and an increase in the sincerity of it.

William Milanese Jr., Member of the Public: He said he lives directly across the street from Coindre Hall on Browns Road and is a staunch opponent of a dog run in the park as well as its proposed location. He said the location would put it directly across from his house and he is also concerned about its management. He said if there's one thing that has been noticeable with the County's stewardship of Coindre Hall, it is its lack of management. He said if you lived where he lives, you would consider Coindre Hall an attractive nuisance.

Another of his concerns with a lack of management is that there is no controlled access to the property. He said he sees 4-wheel drive SUV's entering the property uninhibited; one even drove off the dock and said he has pictures of this. He also said two of his neighbors have been assaulted in the park. He has seen people at very late or early morning hours parking their cars off of his side road and congregating at Coindre Hall drinking and doing drugs. He says that when he calls for law enforcement from the Suffolk County Police, the Park Rangers or the Village of Lloyd Harbor, he is referred back and forth between each agency. He said the lack of a fence along Browns Road is an invitation for people to hang out, but one has never been implemented despite the residents bringing up the issue time and time again. Drug paraphernalia such as needles and other items have been found at the boathouse. Mr. Esposito added he took one of the needles he found to a lab and it was determined to have contained steroids, and said recently a resident stepped on a needle.

He said Legislator Cooper says things are on hold, not to worry, but he feels there is a vacuum of information. He asked today, are there new possible locations for the dog-run? Who would manage it and how? He said the only thing we know is that the County is working to develop a contract with the town that is more than 20 pages long, that was four months ago and that was the last they heard.

Pat Breslauer, Marble Hills Civic Association: She said at a meeting last spring attended by 200 constituents, Legislator Cooper said there would be a fenced in dog-run. She would ask that it be large enough to accommodate those who are use to having the whole park to let their dogs run unleashed so that they'll actually use it. She would also ask that it contain an area for small dogs.

She would like to see cooperation and an over arching plan to preserve the park's natural beauty and hope's that one is forthcoming, because there is nothing that has been presented forthright.

Dale Gifford, APHH: She looked out the back door of the meeting room and counted seven dogs off-leash at that moment and said she and her husband are accosted by unleashed dogs in the park every time they come. Dog owners blatantly ignore the signs saying dogs must be leashed and get angry if you point that out to them, a tone has been set because dog owners have been getting away with it for years and they now feel it's their right (to have unleashed dogs.). She said dogs are ruining the grounds. The building has been saved, but the pond is dying and the dogs are ruining it.

She said the Sagamore Rowing Club has used the boathouse for quite a number of years and it has steadily decayed. One has to wonder why nothing has been done. She said there is a plan out from an organization called LINSHA (Long Island North Shore Heritage Area) that has some specific suggestions about tourism and some suggestions about ferry boats in the plan. LINSHA had assured them that all ferry references would be removed from the document, despite their repeated presentations before LINSHA, those references remain.

So many different people want to use the park, but right now it's the dog owners, rowers, caterers and auctioneers who dominate. She said some residents are chased out by dogs and the owners do nothing. It's different here because a tone has been set. When you go to a park like Blydenburgh, you are met at the entrance by an employee who makes sure you have the proper pass to enter, if you don't, then you don't get in, which is fine. Why isn't it monitored here, it's out of control.

Elizabeth Koerner, APHH: She said her family goes back at least seven generations in Huntington and her environmental concerns run very deep for the park, especially in relation to the issue of unleashed dogs and the mess they leave behind. They are polluting storm water runoff and destroying protected plantings. She also said she has been accosted and injured by dogs. Families with young children are afraid and many do not visit the park anymore.

She said the town had been told by Legislator Cooper that there would be a two year trial period when the dog run fence was put up, but when is that going to happen? She thinks they are stalling so the trial period can be delayed. It is her opinion that the dog run should be somewhere where you can't see it, hear it or smell it. Now the dogs are down in the water, swimming near children, relieving themselves in the water and the reeds. Another important consideration is that there are children's programs on the grounds all summer, what if a dog got loose? And she added that dogs don't need the view (of the harbor), put the dog-run somewhere else.

She also believes there is inappropriate storing of boats in the boathouse. Members store their private boats there, but if she owned a boat, she would not be able to store her boat there.

Janet Graham: She said she came to remind everyone that this is a harbor waterfront community and the marine quality needs to be kept to a high standard in order to keep up the quality of Suffolk County and of the Town of Huntington. She said she likes that the Trustees are stewards, but who is managing this property? The effects of what is going on in the water concerns her, she said some of the things that need to be looked at are clamming, erosion, the issue of paint on the underside of boats, septic systems and pump-out stations need to be monitored. She would like to see this area be a pristine stepping stone park like Great Neck is for their community.

Chairman Corwin said these are all important issues which the Trustees and the Commissioner

are aware of and concerned with, but wanted to make clear that to some extent, the Trustees are not a policy-making body, to some extent they are. The only true policy-making body in the County is the Legislature, and they do not systematically go through every park and identify a plan or set up a committee for each park. Coindre Hall is a facility that the Legislature has never mandated a comprehensive plan for. While the Parks department tries to have as much of a presence on County parkland as possible, the number of acres of land belonging to the County far outweighs the number of Park employees to staff them.

The Chairman said the Trustees agree with equal access for all Suffolk County residents in County Parks. With regards to the issue of the grounds being inaccessible or restricted to residents when there is a function taking place, he said that sounds like a legitimate issue. He said the dog run issue is more complex and agrees that there is no official dog run in place, but a de-facto use going on. He noted that the advisory committee set up by Legislator Cooper created was an ad-hoc committee and not one officially recognized by the full Legislature, so with all due respect to Legislator Cooper and the Legislature, whatever recommendations made by the committee would not necessarily have the full weight of the County Legislature behind them.

Commissioner Foley said that the location of the dog run, set in adopted County legislation, is in the corner near Gold Star Battalion Beach and until something officially changes, that is what we have to work with. The agreement is being negotiated and drafted between attorneys from the Town of Huntington and Suffolk County. When constructed, the dog run will be a Town managed facility on County property and Parks will have oversight of how the town manages it. It will be reflected in the agreement that activities on the rest of the property will be monitored and to inform people where the dog run is and that loose dogs are not permitted anywhere else in the park.

The Commissioner went on to say that the designated location is the only thing that has been approved. While there are people who are unhappy with the size and location, unless it goes back to the Legislature and changes are made, we can only do what has been approved. Chairman Corwin added that while the Trustees understand that the APHH and others are unhappy with the location, it is most likely Legislator Cooper who will have to initiate any changes to that legislation; our hands are tied. Commissioner Foley said the advisory committee was set up by Legislator Cooper, he has the legislation and should be able to get them copies of it, but he said he will send them copies of what he has.

Commissioner Foley said there are 230 historic buildings in the Suffolk County Parks system, the Parks Historic Services department only has a staff of three full time employees and one part time secretary to manage and be stewards to them all. There are four historic buildings here: Coindre Hall, the boathouse, the garage, and the pump house. Most of the County's historic buildings have no plan and very little, if any, capital money invested in them over a long period of time, short of putting a roof on or repairing a deteriorating foundation. It is the Parks Departments current sole goal to stabilize these buildings and keep them intact. A synopsis of all buildings has been done and that information will be brought to the Budget Office and County Executive requesting a significant increase in the Historic Preservation budget for capital improvements to buildings to start restoration.

The Commissioner said Parks is the steward as well as the manager of this property. He said there was a period of time when a group known as Friends for Long Island's Heritage (FLLIH) was given some of that responsibility. They put together the contracts for the caterers, the boathouse occupant and a number of other agreements. They collected the revenue from those agreements and put it into a program they managed which was for 50 or so buildings.

It became obvious, after a very short time of looking at what that contract called for, that it

wasn't clear where the money was going and we cancelled their contract entirely. Recently, the Suffolk County Comptroller finished a report and agreed that this was the right decision because they couldn't tell where the money was going either. It was a little over a year ago that their contract was cancelled and Parks has been going around making assessments of the buildings they were responsible for that now need immediate attention. Parks Historic and Maintenance departments have been tending to the worst-case properties first. There is no question that we are in a catch-up mode. We are doing the best we can and putting plans in place as needed.

The Commissioner agrees that a plan needs to be in place at Coindre Hall, just perhaps not in the time frame APHH wishes it to be. Right now the immediate, over-riding priority is to preserve and keep the structures from deteriorating any further. That is why the roof of the garage is currently being worked on, and we want to make sure the garage remains standing. The next place to be worked on is the boathouse. As an historic building, the boat house will be restored, regardless of its use.

The dog situation is an evolving one, there are stories on both sides. Park Police have been sent here and they will continue to write people tickets for having dogs off leash. It is an inappropriate activity that evolved over time, it has become a popular thing to do here and we will have to deal with it as best as we can until we get a solution in place. Until then, the contract is in the hands of the lawyers.

Trustee McKay said, as the Trustee from Huntington, he is aware of these problems and that the problem with off leash dogs is a universal one in parks, the same way it is with ATV's. Police can be sent, but once they leave, the dogs and ATV's come back in. He said he visits Hobart Beach and Crab Meadow and every time he goes to those places, he meets dogs and most of them are not on leashes. Parks currently has a dog run at West Hills, and has been directed to put one in at Blydenburgh. He also pointed out that at the last Trustees meeting where a skate park was discussed, a legislator introduced a bill, got it approved for \$250,000 to build a skate park at Smith Point. No one in the Parks Department or the Trustees ever suggested that we have a skate park at Smith Point, but we have been directed by the Legislature and given the money to do it. It's the same situation with the dog run at Coindre Hall; no one was consulted whether or not there should be a dog run here.

Trustee McKay said he is a member of the Comprehensive Town Planning Board for the Town of Huntington. He said they went through the same issues in 1984 when he was Chairman of the Planning Board, they did a comprehensive plan in 1993 and now in 2006 they are doing another one addressing the same problems that were never solved by the original plan. He said you can have all the plans you want, implementation is the problem. We know what the problems here are, but more than just a plan, it also requires money to implement a plan.

He said a committee which included the Trustees spent over a year trying to formulate a Park Tax District for Suffolk County. They envisioned a fund dedicated to park management but it never came to fruition. There's only so much the Parks Department can do with their current personnel, and he said the Commissioner has been very straightforward about where we can go with this. Trustee McKay said he would do what he could to find out what is holding this up and see if it can move along. If you look at the national level, rules are being rewritten for National Parks in such a way that they are redefining the definition of National Parks. They were to remain unimpaired for future generations. They have redefined unimpaired to mean not permanently impaired, so that ATV use, snowmobile use etc., are not permanent impairments because they could be reversed. Such policy making is also going on at the County level and it is beyond our control.

Trustee Cardillo asked if he heard correctly that this is a 33 acre park and 18 have been lost to

erosion. An APHH member clarified that 18 acres have been lost to useful activity as they are now wetlands.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Foley said at the last Legislative Parks Committee meeting, Legislator Alden suggested the Parks Committee and Trustees could have a joint meeting at some point to get together and interact.

New Reservation System: Deputy Commissioner Bellone said the new reservation system, from a Long Island company called US eDirect, was up and running for the five parks currently operating for campground reservations (Parks Headquarters in West Sayville, Indian Island, Cathedral Pines, Smith Point and Blydenburgh). The system went live on Monday January 16, at 7:00 pm and over 1,000 reservations were made by midnight that night. They were very impressed as there was some concern that the system would overload and shut down without being properly tested, but that did not happen. There are only some minor glitches that will need to be worked out and we have staff on hand to handle that. Over the next several weeks the remaining campgrounds will be up online.

She said over the next year we will see this service provide much more accurate accounting measures and a vast improvement in customer service. The new green keys will have the owners' photo on it and constituents can receive a free replacement green key until June 1, 2006 with the same expiration date as their current green key. The new green keys will remain usable for three years and they will receive it instantly rather than having to wait for it in the mail.

Commissioner Foley commended the Deputy Commissioner and Emily Leogrande, Parks' Community Relations Director, for working non-stop on this since November and said it was a good example of how the competitive bid process works. It wasn't known if this particular company was capable of this, and the day the system went online, the President and Vice President of the company were in the Administration Office from 8:00 in the morning until 10:00 that night making sure things went smoothly. There have been some snags but for a change-over of such a magnitude, he said it was a good experience and the public will be much better served.

Cupsogue RFP - Contracts Manager Colleen Hofmeister said the RFP resulted in two responses and the contract for a food concessionaire at Cupsogue was awarded to Fred Marsillio, the current concessionaire. She will be working with Mr. Marsillio to negotiate a contract with an initial term of five years, plus two additional renewals of 5 year periods. There will be a minimum capital improvement requirement of \$50,000 for each five year period and Mr. Marsillio has a comprehensive capital improvement plan. Trustee White commented that Mr. Marsillio has done a great job and has taken a bad situation and really made it wonderful. Vice Chairman Colina was the Trustee representative on this RFP Committee.

Cedar Point Camp Store - The Commissioner said that a Master Plan for the park is being developed, as such Ms. Hofmeister said they did not want to go for a longer term contract, so this one will be for a single five year term. Only one proposal has been received so far from the current concessionaire, Joe Kaelin. He will be coming in for an oral presentation on January 30th. Trustee White is the Trustee representative on this RFP.

Trap and Skeet - The RFP process is complete and has been awarded to Mark Wroobel of Hunter Sports. County Attorney Jennifer Kohn is working with his attorney to negotiate a contract. Mr. Wroobel is going to the range today with a well known designer, Bill Chadwick, who is going to look at it and come up with some concepts on how to situate the venues at Trap and Skeet to be

a better neighbor.

Smith Point Erosion - Commissioner Foley said the situation remains problematic, and the areas where the problems have been occurring vary and change. The Department of Public Works designed and bid a project for beach nourishment from an off shore dredging site that was estimated to cost \$2 million and no bids were received. All four of the companies in the country capable of doing this job are so busy in Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida due to last summer's hurricanes that they aren't able to do it. He said that was the only chance for this year because the environmental window of time closed faster than we could get in. Unless we can find someone else who can do it, we are at Mother Nature's mercy at least until next year.

Indian Island Erosion - The permit to fix up the area where the artifacts were found was received on Tuesday and we will be talking with Tribal groups to see if they want us to do anything special there. This will protect the road and the picnic area.

Trustee Fritz asked if having the Smith Point skate park near the fishing pier will create any conflicts, such as vandalism for night fishers. The Commissioner said the hope is to consolidate such extraneous activities to one area, we can fence off a parking area that gives us a better way to manage things and we can have a Park Police officer or security personnel monitoring that one area instead of all along the north waterfront parking lot. Additionally, at this time there are no lights in the plans for the skate park, so it won't be a nighttime activity. As to the status of the fishing pier, Nick Gibbons said DPW is coordinating the permit process. Commissioner Foley said the last thing he heard was that DPW was asking if we wanted lights on the pier, we said yes since it will be used for night fishing.

Commissioner Foley said a camper check-in booth at Southaven on the east side of the park by River Road was destroyed by arson over the weekend, it was a total loss. We will have to do an emergency replacement which will cost between \$20-30,000. He hasn't had a chance to talk to anyone at the County Executive's office about where that money will come from. If there is no other alternative the money will have to be taken out of improvements to campgrounds, but the booth has to be replaced.

Trustee White asked if the Commissioner received the simulation and pictures for the GATR site. The Commissioner said he had received them and they did a very good job of showing what the cell poles will look like when the project is completed, they are barely noticeable among the old poles. There was also a sketch of the layout of the poles and what the building will look like. All of these items have been forwarded to the County Attorney's office. It's acceptable to us, it's in their hands to see if it satisfies what they are looking for.

Trustee McKay asked for clarification on the use of the gym at Coindre Hall. It sounded to him the APHH members were saying the gym is open at all times and other groups can get in, even when there is no supervision. Commissioner Foley said the gym is not constantly left open to the public. Deputy Commissioner Bellone added the Town of Huntington is responsible for locking it up after an event, but there's no way it's just left open. It is available to anyone who wants to use it, they just have to fill out a permit through the Town of Huntington.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Chairman Corwin said he would hold his report until the next meeting.

DATE AND LOCATION OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Thursday, February 16 at Meadowedge Country Club in West Sayville at 1:00 pm.

The motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Fritz and seconded by Trustee McKay. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Simonsen.